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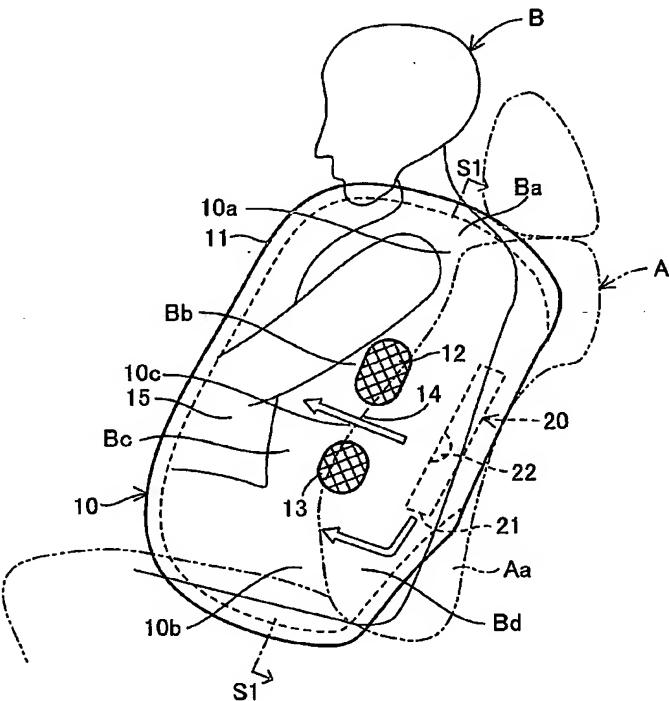
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(54) Title: VEHICLE OCCUPANT PROTECTION DEVICE

(54) 発明の名称: 乗員保護装置



(57) **Abstract:** A vehicle occupant protection device comprises an air bag body (10) that inflates at a side of an occupant (B) by gas fed from an inflator (20) to protect an area from a shoulder (Ba) to a waist/hip portion (Bd) of the occupant (B). The air bag body (10) has a vertical dimension substantially the same as that of a seatback (Aa). Non-inflation portions (12, 13) are formed at a vertically central portion (10c) of the air bag body (10), or a portion corresponding to a chest (Bb) or a stomach (Bc) of the occupant (B). At a substantially central portion of the air bag body (10) is formed a region that, when the air bag body (10) is inflated, has a smaller thickness in a vehicle width direction than an upper portion (10a) and lower portion (10b) of the air bag body (10), and has its length direction in a direction substantially parallel to the seatback (Aa).

(57) **要約:** 乗員保護装置は、インフレータ20から供給されるガスにより乗員Bの側方にて膨張展開して乗員Bの肩部Baから腰部Bdを保護するエアバッグ袋体10を備えていて、このエアバッグ袋体10はシートバックAaと略同一の上下方向寸法を有している。この乗員保護装置では、エアバッグ袋体10の上下方向中央部分10c、すなわち、乗員Bの胸部Bbや腹部Bcに対応する部分に非膨張部12,13が形成されていて、エアバッ

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添付公開書類:

— 國際調査報告書

2 文字コード及び他の略語については、定期発行される  
各 PCT ガゼットの巻頭に掲載されている「コードと略語  
のガイダンスノート」を参照。

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グ袋体10の膨張展開時においてエアバッグ袋体10の上部10aおよび下部10bに比して車幅方向の厚みが薄くシート  
パック Aaに略平行な方向に長手方向を有する領域がエアバッグ袋体10の上下方向略中央部分に形成されている。

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/JP03/16517

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
Int.C1<sup>7</sup> B60R21/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.C1<sup>7</sup> B60R21/16-21/32

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
 Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2004  
 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2004 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00/46076 A1 (BREED AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY INC.), 10 August, 2000 (10.08.00), Full text; Figs. 1 to 11 & JP 2003-501303 A Full text; Figs. 1 to 11	1-25
X	JP 3013763 U (Sensor Technology Co., Ltd.), 18 July, 1995 (18.07.95), Full text; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none)	1-25
X	JP 9-136595 A (Tokai Rika Co., Ltd.), 27 May, 1997 (27.05.97), Full text; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none)	1-25

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

“A”	Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	“T”	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
“E”	earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	“X”	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
“L”	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	“Y”	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
“O”	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	“&”	document member of the same patent family
“P”	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search 08 March, 2004 (08.03.04)	Date of mailing of the international search report 23 March, 2004 (23.03.04)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office	Authorized officer
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/JP03/16517

## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 10-315891 A (Kansei Corp.), 02 December, 1998 (02.12.98), Full text; Figs. 1 to 7 (Family: none)	1-25
X	JP 2000-85515 A (Toyota Motor Corp.), 28 March, 2000 (28.03.00), Full text; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none)	1-25
X	JP 2002-79861 A (Toyoda Gosei Co., Ltd.), 19 March, 2002 (19.03.02), Full text; Figs. 1 to 10 (Family: none)	1-25
X	JP 2000-272463 A (Daihatsu Motor Co., Ltd.), 03 October, 2000 (03.10.00), Full text; Figs. 1 to 7 (Family: none)	1-25
X	US 5927750 A (Nakamura et al.), 27 July, 1999 (27.07.99), Full text; Figs. 1 to 13 & JP 9-272393 A Full text; Figs. 1 to 13	1-25
P,X	JP 2003-137059 A (Nihon Plast Co., Ltd.), 14 May, 2003 (14.05.03), Full text; Figs. 1 to 5 (Family: none)	1-25
P,X	JP 2004-58860 A (Toyoda Gosei Co., Ltd.), 26 February, 2004 (26.02.04), Full text; Figs. 1 to 18 (Family: none)	1-25
P,X	JP 2003-237520 A (Daihatsu Motor Co., Ltd.), 27 August, 2003 (27.08.03), Full text; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none)	1-25
A	JP 2001-163159 A (Daihatsu Motor Co., Ltd.), 19 June, 2001 (19.06.01), Full text; Figs. 1 to 4 (Family: none)	1-25
A	JP 10-287195 A (Otoribu Japan Kabushiki Kaisha), 27 October, 1998 (27.10.98), Full text; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none)	1-25